

54. An antibody raised upon immunization with at least one polypeptide or peptide according to any of claims 22 to [26] 25 or 41, with said antibody being specifically reactive with any of said polypeptides or peptides, and with said antibody being preferably a monoclonal antibody.

61. A method of preventing or treating HCV infection, comprising administering the pharmaceutical composition of claim [62] 60 to a mammal in effective amount.

### REMARKS

The claims from the PCT application have been amended to conform to U.S. practice. Claims 1, 4-7, 9-19, 21-37, 39, 41-50, 52, 54-58, and 60-61 are now pending; and allowance of all claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia A. Kammerer  
Reg. No. 29,775

ATTORNEY FOR ASSIGNEE,  
INNOGENETICS N.V.

ARNOLD, WHITE & DURKEE  
P. O. Box 4433  
Houston, Texas 77210-4433  
(713) 787-1438  
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Preliminary Amendment

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